

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 L-03 FRB-03 OMB-01 ITC-01 SP-02

USIA-06 AGR-05 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07

IO-13 LAB-04 NSAE-00 OIC-02 SIL-01 STR-04 TRSE-00

CIEP-01 CEA-01 SS-15 /102 W
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FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7770

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

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NAIROBI FOR USDEL UNCTAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UNCTAD, EEC, IT

SUBJECT: GOI REACTION TO UNCTAD-IV

REF: ROME 8171

1. DURING MAY 20 CALL ON MINISTRY FOREIGN AFFAIRS (MFA)
DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS MONDELLO, ECMIN ASKED
HOW GOI VIEWED UNCTAD-IV RESULTS TO DATE. MONDELLO, WHO
SAID HE HAD JUST FINISHED SPEAKING ON TELEPHONE WITH ITALIAN
DELEGATION CHIEF JACOANGELI, DESCRIBED EVENTS SO FAR AS
QUITE SATISFACTORY FROM GOI VIEWPOINT. HE NOTED, HOWEVER,
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THAT REALLY CRITICAL PERIOD STILL AHEAD.

2. MONDELLO CHARACTERIZED SECRETARY KISSINGER'S MAY 6 UNCTAD SPEECH AS "EXCELLENT," OBSERVING THAT IT SET APPROPRIATE TONE AND MOMENTUM FOR OPENING OF CONFERENCE AS WELL AS PROVIDING USEFUL FOCUS FOR G-77 AND GROUP B COUNTRIES. THE SECRETARY'S PROPOSAL FOR INTERNATIONAL RESOURCES BANK (IRB) WAS SINGLED OUT AS ESPECIALLY HELPFUL, ALTHOUGH MONDELLO SAID HE BELIEVES IT MIGHT HAVE TO BE MODIFIED SOMEWHAT TO BE ACCEPTABLE TO MOST OF G-77. HE AGREES THAT IRB IS A SEPARATE PROPOSAL WHICH SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ON ITS OWN MERIT.

3. MONDELLO OBSERVED THAT THERE ARE STILL SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCES WITHIN GROUP B AND BETWEEN G-77 AND GROUP B ON COMMODITY BY COMMODITY VERSUS COMMON FUND APPROACHES TO COMMODITY PROBLEMS. SMILING, HE SAID ITALY COULD AFFORD TO BE MORE FORTHCOMING TOWARD G-77 ON THIS ISSUE THAN SOME OTHER EC MEMBERS SINCE ITALY WOULD NOT, IN ANY CASE, HAVE TO PAY MUCH OF THE COST. MONDELLO SAID MFA SEES SIGNS THAT FRG IS BEGINNING TO MOVE AWAY FROM ITS "NEGATIVE" POSITION, WHILE UK HAS SERIOUS FINANCIAL PROBLEMS WHICH CONDITION ITS ATTITUDE. HE BELIEVES GROUP B WILL HAVE TO MOVE CLOSER TO G-77 POSITION ON THIS ISSUE IF IT IS TO BE MANAGED SUCCESSFULLY AT MAIROBI.

4. DIFFERENCES BETWEEN G-77 AND GROUP B ON UNCTAD INSTITUTIONAL RELATIONSHIPS, ACCORDING TO MONDELLO, INCLUDING RELATIONSHIP TO GATT AND MTN, ARE GREAT AND PROBABLY CANNOT BE BRIDGED IN AMNNER SATISFACTORY TO BOTH SIDES. HE IMPLIED, HOWEVER, FAILURE TO RESOLVE THESE DIFFERENCES AT NAIROBI, SHOULD NOT PROVE FATAL.

5. MONDELLO SEES NO SATISFACTORY WAY TO SATISFY G-77 ON DEBT ISSUES WITHOUT HOPELESSLY COMPROMISING GROUP B POSITION, WHICH GOI SUPPORTS. UNLESS SIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF G-77 COUNTRIES DESERT G-77 POSITION, THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN G-77 AND GROUP B WILL PROBABLY NOT BE RESOLVED AT NAIROBI.

6. MONDELLO CONCLUDED WITH STATEMENT THAT UNCTAD-IV MUST BE MANAGED IN A MANNER WHICH ENSURES THAT ONGOING CIEC NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE AT PARIS DOES NOT COLLAPSE.

7. COMMENT. FROM MONDELLO'S PRESENTATION, HE OBVIOUSLY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BELIEVES THAT COMMODITIES IS KEY PROBLEM AREA IN WHICH SUBSTANTIAL G-77 DESIDERATA MUST BE MET AT MAIROBI IN ORDER TO AVOID UNFORTUNATE CONSEQUENCES FOR CIEC.VOLPE

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